

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims (~~strike through~~ or [[double-brackets]] indicating deletion and underline indicating insertion) as follows:

1. (previously amended) A scent-elimination system for a hunter, comprising:
a hunting blind in which the hunter may be concealed, the hunting blind having an air outlet opening and having a left side panel, a right side panel, and a bottom panel therebetween, wherein the side and bottom panels are adapted to secure tightly against a tree with a good seal so that airflow between the blind and the tree is minimized and scent-laden air pools at the bottom panel; and
a filtration unit adapted to draw the pooled scent-laden air through the filtration unit to absorb odors therein, and to vent the filtered air out to the environment.
2. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the air outlet opening receives therein at least a portion of the filtration unit.
3. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the air outlet opening is defined at a lower portion of the blind, wherein the filtration unit vents the filtered air from within the blind through the lower air outlet opening.
4. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the filtration unit comprises a scent-elimination element.
5. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the filtration unit comprises an air mover.
6. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a blind support adapted for mounting to a tree.

7. (original) The system of Claim 6, wherein the blind support includes a tree-mounting bracket and a frame that mounts to the bracket.

8-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The system of Claim ~~9~~ 44, wherein the bracket connector members are outwardly angled and the support frame connector members are inwardly angled for alignment with the outwardly angled bracket connector members.

11. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind is made of a scent-absorbing material.

12. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind further comprises a front end panel between the left and right side panels and opposite the tree, wherein the top of the hunting blind is open.

13. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the hunting blind comprises a plurality of panels that are sectionalized and detachably coupled together so that the hunter may selectively detach at least two of the panels to permit the hunter to enter and exit the blind, and to permit coupling the panels together around ladders of tree stands for forming a good seal wherein airflow between the blind and the ladder is minimized.

14. (previously amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the left and right side panels having tree-wrapping portions that extend beyond the bottom panel, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions may be wrapped at least partially around a tree to form the good seal.

15. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the bottom panel has an elastic edge for stretching into a conforming engagement with the tree to form the good seal.

16. (original) The system of Claim 14, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions include at least one pair of straps sufficiently long that they may be wrapped around the tree in a crossed fashion and bound together inside the blind to secure the tree-wrapping portions tightly against the tree with the good seal.

17. (previously amended) A scent-elimination system for a hunter, comprising:
a hunting blind in which the hunter may be concealed; and
a filtration unit adapted to draw ambient air into the blind, across the hunter to absorb human odors into the air, and through the filtration unit to absorb the human odors thereinto, and to direct the filtered air out to the environment,
wherein the blind comprises a bottom panel and an air outlet opening defined in the bottom panel, and the filtration unit is adapted for venting the filtered air through the bottom air outlet opening.

18. (original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a remote on/off control switch electrically connectable to the filtration unit for operating the filtration unit.

19. (previously amended) A hunting blind for use in a scent-elimination system for a hunter, comprising:
a left side panel, a right side panel, and a bottom panel therebetween, the bottom, left, and right side panels adapted to secure tightly against a tree with a good seal so that airflow between the blind and the tree is minimized and scent-laden air pools at the bottom panel.

20. (previously amended) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the bottom panel has an elastic edge for stretching into a conforming engagement with the tree to form the good seal.

21. (previously amended) The blind of Claim 41, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions include at least one pair of straps sufficiently long that they may be wrapped around the tree in a crossed fashion and bound together inside the blind to secure the tree-wrapping portions tightly against the tree with the good seal.

22. (original) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the hunting blind comprises a plurality of panels that are sectionalized and detachably coupled together so that the hunter may selectively detach at least two of the panels to permit the hunter to enter and exit the blind, and to permit coupling the panels together around ladders of tree stands for forming a good seal.

23. (previously amended) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the blind has an air outlet opening formed therein through which the filtration unit vents filtered air from within the blind through.

24. (previously amended) The blind of Claim 23, wherein the air outlet opening is defined at a lower portion of the blind.

25-32. (canceled)

33. (previously amended) A method of eliminating a hunter's scent from a hunting area, comprising:

- providing a blind defining a closed space except for at least one air inlet opening and an air outlet opening;

- providing a filtration unit for scent elimination;

- drawing ambient air into the blind through the air inlet and around the hunter to absorb human odors into the air;

- drawing the scent-laden air into the filtration unit for scent elimination; and

- directing the cleaned air through the air outlet opening, out of the blind, and into the hunting area.

34. (original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal.

35. (original) The method of Claim 34, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal comprises wrapping two extended side panel portions at least partially around the tree.

36. (original) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal further comprises stretching an elastic edge of a bottom panel of the blind into a conforming engagement with the tree.

37. (original) The method of Claim 35, wherein the step of mounting the blind to a tree with a good seal further comprises wrapping at least one pair of straps, which are attached to the two extended side panel portions, around the tree in a crossed fashion and binding them together inside the blind to secure the two extended side panel portions tightly against the tree.

38-39. (canceled)

40. (previously added) The method of Claim 33, wherein the air inlet opening is defined in an upper portion of the blind and the air outlet is defined in a lower portion of the blind, wherein the step of drawing ambient air comprises drawing ambient air into the blind through the upper air inlet and downwardly around the hunter to absorb human odors into the air.

41. (previously added) The blind of Claim 19, wherein the left and right side panels have tree-wrapping portions that extend beyond the bottom panel, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions may be wrapped at least partially around the tree to form the good seal.

42. (previously added) The blind of Claim 20, wherein the left and right side panels have tree-wrapping portions that extend beyond the bottom panel, wherein the left and right side panel tree-wrapping portions may be wrapped at least partially around the tree to form the good seal.

43. (new) The system of Claim 7, wherein the blind support frame includes an end member and two side members pivotally coupled to the end member.

44. (new) The system of Claim 7, wherein the tree-mounting bracket includes two connector members and the support frame includes two connector members that mount to the bracket connector members.